

Borough of Palmyra
Minutes-October 5, 2015

CALL TO ORDER.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MOMENT OF SILENCE.

ROLL CALL.

PRESENT: Mayor Scheffler, President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Gravano, Mr. Howard.

ABSENT: Mr. Bostock.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Public Notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Borough Clerk in the following manner:

- A. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Palmyra Borough Hall on January 7, 2015.
- B. Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 7, 2015.
- C. Notice to All Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Mr. Howard requested a correction to the minutes to show that he was present at the executive session. President Dobbs made a motion to approve the minutes from September 21, 2015, Mrs. Tait second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A. Board of Chosen Freeholders Meeting-October 28. The Board of Chosen Freeholders are going to hold their meeting at Borough Hall on October 28th, it is opened to the general public.

B. Email from Brian McBride, Superintendent of Schools-Mayor Scheffler read the email into the record:

Dear Honorable Mayor Scheffler,

I am writing to extend my personal gratitude and appreciation for the assistance provided by the Palmyra Police Department, Palmyra Fire Department, Borough agencies, and state agencies who assisted us today at the Charles Street School. Sadly, the Charles Street School has experienced two, unsubstantiated threats, made by students who have yet to be identified, in the last six days. The disruption caused by such emergencies has a definite impact on student instruction. Fortunately, both instances resulted in false threats with no subsequent harm to students, staff, or facilities. The professional response and intervention by Borough departments made the situation controlled and gave parents a strong sense that the safety and security of their child was the top priority of all involved. Please

know that the Palmyra School District is taking additional measures to help prevent any future occurrences of false threats made by students.

On behalf of the Board of Education please extend my gratitude to all those who assisted during these emergencies.

Sincerely,

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent of Schools
Palmyra Public Schools
856-786-9300
bmcbride@palmyra.k12.nj.us

C. Town Meeting- Chief Pearlman announced that there will be a town hall meeting to meet the officers and also a panel including some councilmembers on October 14th at 6:30pm. The Southern Burlington County Branch of the NAACP will be also be present.

D. Halloween Parade- Mayor Scheffler will be donating her paycheck from the Borough for October and November to the Halloween Parade Committee, they are attempting to have a special event for the children at Legion Field after the parade. The Halloween Parade is a 501C and anyone making a donation can use it at tax time.

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES.

A. Environmental Resolutions- Mr. Kirchner discussed that Resolution 2015-193 is on the agenda to award the bid to Curb-Con for the South Broad Street and 2015 Road Program. The project will use DOT and Borough funds combined. The project came in lower than the estimate for the job. Resolution 2015-195 is for engineering services for the HVAC system maintenance contract. Mr. Kirchner reviewed Resolution 2015-196 engineering services for the sludge thickening project at the sewer plant, the additional funds are needed for items that were added to the contract. The bid for the community center generator will be held on October 14th. Mr. Kirchner reported that he had sent a contractor to talk to Tony at the Barbershop about fixing his outside wall.

Vacancy- Ms. Arnold explained that she would like to have the vacancy of council considered first, so that the person can vote on the resolutions. Mayor Scheffler explained that they would have to recuse themselves as they had not been present during the discussions at previous meetings and are not familiar with the new business. Ms. Arnold discussed that Mr. Kirchner had just given his report. Mr. Howard discussed that he would like to do resolutions first.

President Dobbs requested that Item C-Resolution 2015-193 be pulled from consent agenda. President Dobbs made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mrs. Tait second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.

RESOLUTIONS. Consent Agenda- Resolution 2015-191-Resolution 2015-197 will be enacted as a single motion, if any resolution needs additional discussion it will be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately

A. Resolution 2015-191, Resolution Authorizing The Approval To Submit A Grant Application And To Execute A Grant Contract With the New Jersey Department Of Transportation For The West Fourth Street Improvement Project.

B. Resolution 2015-192, Resolution Authorizing Approval To Submit A Grant Application And Execute A Grant Contract With The New Jersey Department Of Transportation For The Broad Street Traffic Calming Project.

C. Resolution 2015-193, Resolution Awarding The South Broad Street And 2015 Road Program To Curb Con, 514 North Main Street, Barnegat NJ In The Amount Of \$511,392.49. Ms. Tait made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Howard second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mrs. Tait, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.
ABSTAIN: President Dobbs.

D. Resolution 2015-194, Resolution Authorizing The Tax Collector To Cancel Sewer Taxes On The Property Listed Due to Change In Dwelling Units.

E. Resolution 2015-195, Resolution Awarding Engineering Services For HVAC System Preventative Maintenance Contracts To Environmental Resolutions Inc.

F. Resolution 2015-196, Resolution Awarding Engineering Services For The sludge Thickening & Odor control Project for the Sewer Treatment Plant.

G. Resolution 2015-197, Resolution Releasing Maintenance Bond Posted By Eagle Construction Services Inc. For HVAC Replacement Project.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

A. Borough Council Vacancy-Mayor Scheffler inquired if all the candidates were present? Ms. Arnold replied that they were not all present. Mayor Scheffler recommend that council appoint Bryan Norcross to fill the unexpired term of Adam Nowicki. Mrs. Tait made a motion to appoint Bryan Norcross to the unexpired term, President Dobbs second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Bryan Norcross was sworn in by Ted Rosenberg, Esq. with his father Mr. Howard Norcross present.

B. K-9 Unit-Chief Pearlman is talking about having a police K-9 unit and that it is a good resource for the Department. Chief Pearlman explained that he would like to have a resolution approved for a dedication by rider that would allow the department to raise funds for the K-9 unit and they would be deposited in a special account just for the K-9. There is a pet supplier in Mount Laurel that has agreed to provide food to all of the K-9 dogs in Burlington County. Chief Pearlman discussed that one of the officers already has a dog that is available to be trained as the K-9 dog. The Officer has already started training. There are also other funding options available that would not affect the operating budget. Mayor Scheffler explained that four K-9 animals were used at the event last week at Charles Street School. Ms. Arnold inquired if it is typical to have more than one dog respond to an event. Chief Pearlman explained that it takes several dogs to canvass a large building or event and that the dogs get exhausted quickly. Mayor Scheffler explained that it would also increase the Community Policing especially with children. Mr. Howard inquired as to how much is needed to be raised? Chief Pearlman replied that \$20,000 would be perfect, but that \$5,000 is a good start and that with a dedication by rider the Officers can raise the funds for the program. Ms. Arnold inquired if approving the dedication by rider, is approving the K-9 dog. Mr. Gural explained that Borough Council would have to approve the resolution for the dedication by rider and then it is sent to the State's local finance board for approval and that it still does not give the authorization of purchase. Chief Pearlman discussed that Officer Snow's dog has been cleared for training and if the Borough agrees the dog would have to be turned over to the Borough for training. Ms. Arnold inquired about the length of service for a K-9. Chief Pearlman replied that it is usually about 7 years. Ms. Arnold would like additional information on the program and the cost before approving a resolution of dedication by ryder. Chief Pearlman explained that the program was terminated in 2006 due to talks of lay-offs in the police department. The Township of Evesham heard about the lay-offs and offered the Officer with the K-9 dog a position. Chief Pearlman will provide budget for 2016 for K-9 to the Mayor and Borough Council.

C. 2016 pay periods-27-Mr. Gural explained that the first pay in January, 2016 is actually for days work in December of 2015. The salary is actually earned in 2015 but will appear in 2016 budget.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT.

A. Best Practice Inventory/Checklist-Mr. Gural advised council that the Best Practice Checklist is due to the State by October 16 and that he will review it with council at the meeting of October 19th.

B. Joint meeting with Land Use Board-the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan will be

presented to the Land Use Board and Borough Council on October 19 at 6:30 pm as part of the regular council meeting.

C. Grants update.-Mr. Gural advised Council that the Burlington County Park Grant has been submitted. The traffic calming grant for Broad Street has been amended to only include Broad Street from Cinnaminson Avenue to Riverton.

D. Habitat for Humanity-Mr. Gerkens of CGP & H is working to have the home count towards the Borough's COAH obligations. Ms. Arnold will review the listing and look for additional information.

E. Restrooms at Concession Stand-the restrooms at Legion Field in the concession stand were vandalized on Thursday evening. The restrooms are closed indefinitely till they can be repaired. The damage was mostly in the boys' room. The various sports associations will have to provide a port-a-pot for their use. Mrs. Tait explained that the Halloween Committee has planned an extra event this year for the children at Legion Field and that they need the restrooms or a lot of port-a-pots. Mr. Norcross recommend just bringing them in for that night. Mr. Gural discussed that this is one of the reasons that Chief Pearlman has been working updating the cameras throughout the Borough and should have it ready for the November 2nd meeting.

F. AED update-there is a bill in front of the Governor that would require all athletic and public recreation departments to have an AED available at all events and also to have a train person on hand. If the bill is signed it would take effect September, 2016.

G. Turkey Population-Mr. Gural informed council that he had talked to the County Board of Health about the turkeys and that the turkeys are under State Game Animals and the population cannot be reduced.

Mayor Scheffler appointed Bryan Norcross to the committees that were vacated by Adam Nowicki. Mrs. Tait discussed that the Positive Press had a nice article on the Mosaic in the community center and also they listed the events going on. The Community Board is working on the list for winter events.

PUBLIC COMMENT. Presidents Dobbs made a motion to open the meeting for public comment, Mr. Howard second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Veitenheimer-Rowland inquired why Borough Hall was closed for Columbus Day. Mr. Gural replied that the Borough is normally closed on Columbus Day except for the times in exchange for days around Christmas. Ms. Veitenheimer inquired as to what sidewalks will be fixed with the road program. Mr. Gural replied that the sidewalks are either Borough owned or ones that have been broken by the Borough.

No one else from the public wishing to be heard, Mr. Howard made a motion to close the public portion, President Dobbs second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Resolution 2015-198, Resolution Excluding the Public From Certain Meetings Pursuant To Section 8 Of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P. L. 1975. (Litigation, negotiations, personnel). Mr. Howard made a motion to approve the resolution, President Dobbs second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Norcross, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.

Borough Council went into executive session at 7:22pm.

ADJOURNMENT. Mrs. Tait made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 pm, Mr. Howard second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.